GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2158
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
AGRICULTURE ECONOMIC ZONE
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for Agriculture Economic Zone is under consideration with the Government on the lines of Special Economic Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the purpose of setting up Zones and the advantages likely to be reaped from the said scheme; and

(d) the arrangements of financing of the said Scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): No proposal for setting up of Agriculture Economic Zone is under consideration of Government. However, two Agro based Special Economic Zone (SEZs) have been given formal approval of which one has been notified so far. Besides, in- principle approval has been given for one Agro based SEZ. The details are at Annexure.

(c): The Special Economic Zone (SEZ) policy is intended to make SEZs an engine for economic growth supported by quality infrastructure. Main objectives of the SEZ scheme are generation of additional economic activity, promotion of exports of goods and services, promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources, creation of employment opportunities and development of infrastructure facilities.

(d): SEZs are encouraged to be set up in the private sector or in association with the State Governments in the joint sector or by the State Governments and its agencies themselves. No new SEZ is being set up by the Central Government. No financial assistance is provided by the Central Government for setting up the SEZs.